

## COMMENT FORM

Public Scoping Meetings

We need your input. Please take a few minutes to provide your comments or questions for the USDA RUS Federal Environmental Impact Statement process and return your completed form today or mail by June 29, 2009. Your comments help in the planning and implementation of the project. **Thank you.**

Completing this form will automatically add you to our mailing list. If you prefer to not be on the mailing list, please check the box below.

☐ I do not wish to be on the project mailing list

Which meeting did you attend? Winningo

Please check the following issues that are important to you for transmission line siting.

- ☐ Project Purpose and Need
- ☐ Visual / Aesthetic resources
- ☐ Proximity to residences
- ☒ Land use (agriculture, residential, recreation)
- ☐ Water resources (floodplains, river crossings)
- ☐ Biological resources (wildlife habitat, raptors)
- ☐ Historic and cultural sites
- ☐ Radio or television interference
- ☐ Noise
- ☐ Health and safety
- ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

What additional key issues should be addressed when assessing the potential impacts of this project?

*The projected line along the Highway 60 route will be traveling through land that has been purchased, ~~improved~~ improved and maintained for four generations. The poles will be placed in productive agriculture fields, disrupting the pattern tile lines that are being used. The poles will also be a place for weeds to grow and spread throughout the fields. The lines will also take away productive land that can not and will not be used for production agriculture again. Will the destroyed tile lines be repaired in a timely matter, if repaired at all?*

B-010-002

Hampton • Rochester • La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project

If you own property in one of the proposed corridors, please indicate all the existing uses of your property below:

☒ Agriculture ☐ Residential ☐ Conservation Easement  
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please describe any special uses or circumstances on your property that should be considered when assessing the Project. Please indicate the location of your property.

*Wanamingo Township, section 31 and 32*

In your opinion, what are the most sensitive resources (biological, cultural, recreational, ect.) in the Project area and why?

*Agriculture is the most sensitive resource in this project area. The proposed route will travel through thousands and thousands of acres of productive agricultural land. Installing and maintaining these lines will cause severe compaction on the agricultural land, causing damage of land, making it unproductive. How much will the power companies be willing to pay per month for the use of our land to place these poles in?*

#### B-010-001

Your comment has been noted. RUS anticipates that the CapX2020 Utilities would provide compensation in the form of a one-time easement payment to property owners who host transmission lines. Property owners would retain ownership of the land and may continue to use the land around transmission structures. RUS anticipates that the CapX2020 Utilities would work with property owners to negotiate easement payments after the permitting process.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be available on the RUS website at: <http://www.usda.gov/rus/water/ees/eis.htm>. Comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement will be solicited after its publication.

#### B-010-002

Your comment has been noted. Potential impacts resulting from construction, operation, and maintenance of the transmission line will be addressed in resource sections throughout the Draft Environmental Impact Statement.

B-010-001

In your opinion, was the project description, purpose, and need for the project adequately explained? If not, what additional information is needed?

*It was not explained at all. Land owners of the affected area had to find out information by asking questions and hoping they were the right questions.*

Please tell us how to reach you.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Public participation for the Federal, Minnesota, and Wisconsin permitting processes will be ongoing for the Hampton-Rochester-La Crosse 345 kV Transmission Project. If you sign up for the mailing list, you will be notified when opportunities to participate are being planned.

Please plan to continue your involvement in the process and provide your comments. We appreciate your input.